

28. The device as recited in claim 27 wherein the linear movements implement scrolling functions on the display screen.

29. The device as recited in claim 26 wherein the at least one control object is a slider bar.

30. The device as recited in claim 23 wherein the touch pad assembly is configured to monitor the angular position of the object relative to the touch sensitive surface when the object is moved about the touch sensitive surface.

31. The device as recited in claim 23 wherein the touch pad assembly is configured to monitor the radial position of the object relative to the touch sensitive surface when the object is moved about the touch sensitive surface.

32. The device as recited in claim 23 wherein the touch pad assembly is configured to monitor the angular and radial position of the object relative to the touch sensitive surface when the object is moved about the touch sensitive surface.

33. The device as recited in claim 23 wherein the touch pad assembly comprises a sensor arrangement configured to detect the object when the object is positioned on the touch sensitive surface, and a control assembly for monitoring the sensor arrangement so as to ascertain the angular or radial position of the object when the object is moved about the touch sensitive surface.

34. The device as recited in claim 33 wherein the sensor arrangement includes a plurality of sensors, each of which is associated with a particular angular or radial position on the touch sensitive surface.

35. The device as recited in claim 34 wherein a finger moving about the touch sensitive surface and across adjacent sensors produces data associated with the angular or radial direction of the moving finger relative to the touch sensitive surface.

36. The device as recited in claim 33 wherein the sensor arrangement is based on capacitance.

37. A user input system having a touch pad, a display and a controller, the system being configured to convert angular or radial data associated with the touch pad into control inputs associated with the display.

38. The system as recited in claim 37 wherein the touch pad provides angular or radial input areas about a center region, wherein the display screen displays at least one control object via a graphical user interface, and wherein the controller receives a user angular or radial input from the angular or radial input areas of the touch pad, converts the user angular or radial input into the control input, and supplies the control input to the at least one control object of the graphical user interface of the display screen.

39. The system as recited in claim 38, wherein the at least one control object is a linear graphical user interface component, and wherein the control input for the linear graphical user interface component causes a linear interaction there-with.

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